Title: > Introduction of the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill,1998. >

1412 hours

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up item no. 26. The hon. Law Minister, Shri Thambi Durai.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and the Indian Penal Code... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, and the Indian Penal Code.

... (Interruptions)

>SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I have an objection to the introduction of the Bill. Will you please allow me to speak?.. (Interruptions)... Sir, I may be permitted to speak. I have already given a notice in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is that notice?

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, I have given two notices regarding the introduction of the Bill. Sir, it is against the fundamental principles of the Constitution. It is a proxy Bill, proxy in the sense, that even the secrecy of the ballot will get ruined. The secrecy of the ballot is the material concern of our democracy.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, your notice has not been received.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, please hear me. If this Bill is allowed to be introduced, it will go against the principle of Constitution ... (Interruptions)...Please hear me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, you have given notice on the Companies Act and not on this.

... (Interruptions)

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* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II Section 2, dt. MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Oh, my goodness!

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, the secrecy of the Bill will be ruined if this Bill is introduced. I strongly object its introduction.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have given notice to the Companies (Amendment) Bill, but not this Bill.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I object to the introduction of this Bill because the secrecy of the ballot would be lost. It is against the fundamental provisions of the Constitution.

... (Interruptions)

>SHRI R.S. GAVAI (AMRAVATI): The logic and rationale which apply for the reorganisation of U.P, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, the same logic and rationale are quite applicable to Vidarbha. It is not only that; the BJP has included that in the Agenda. The hon. Prime Minister has time and again assured that Vidarbha will be given. Now there is a meeting of the Hon.Speaker with the leaders. I want to know whether formation of Vidarbha is included in the meeting or not. You have to look into it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That item is not there. We are not discussing that.

SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Hon.Speaker has agreed with the leaders regarding these three Bills. What about Vidarbha? Hon.Prime Minister is here. I request him because he has assured us.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are going according to the Agenda. When it comes, then only your matter would be considered.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down. When it comes before the House, you can say that and not now, Shri Vilas Muttemwar.

प्रो. जोगेन्द्र कवाडे (चिमूर) : इन लोगों ने विदर्भ के साथ विश्वासघात किया है, इसलिए हम वाक आउट करते हैं।

14.17 hrs.

(Prof. Jogendra Kawade and some other Hon. Members the left the House)

Mr. Deputy Speaker : The question is:

1418 hours

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act,1951, and the Indian Penal Code"

The motion was adopted

DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : I introduce* the Bill.

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* Introduced with the Recommendation of the President